centres where large quantities can be stored and supplied to Retail for fresh sale and to processing industries for processing. The scheme also envisages provision of reefer vans for transportation of produce from one centre to another at all levels. These measures are expected to result in reducing wastage on account of lack of cold storage and farmer getting better price for his produce.

The Ministry has also adopted Vision 2015, which aims to triple the size of food sector in 10 year's time by increasing the level of processing of perishables from 6% to 20%, value addition from 20% to 35% and share in global trade from 1.5% to 3%. The Vision document envisages that the level of processing for fruits and vegetables to increase 10% and 15% in 2010 and 2015 respectively. The Action Plan covers, *inter alia*, research to focus on introducing new varieties in a few identified fruits and vegetables; increase production and productivity through introduction of new plant varieties; marketing and market intelligence measures covering, *inter alia*, amendment to APMC Act to enable direct farmer processor linkages, revamping of Government promotional schemes; and tax reforms/ concessions on fruit and vegetable based processed foods.

Food processing industries in Jharkhand

†2114. SHRI AJAY MAROO: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of food processing industries in Jharkhand which have been given approval during the last three years;

(b) the names of such food items which are processed; and

(c) the efforts being made for revival of sick units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAI): (a) to (c) Ministry of Food Processing Industries extends financial assistance in the form of grant-in-aid to implementing agencies/entrepreneurs for upgradation/modernization/establishment of food processing units. Under the above Scheme, an amount of Rs. 156.38 lakhs has been approved during the last three years for five food processing units comprising fruit

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

and vegetable, flour milling and milk processing sectors in the State of Jharkhand.

The Ministry of Food Processing Industries constituted a Task Force for the State of Jharkhand under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Industries), Government of Jharkhand. The Task Force specifically mandated to evolve strategies for development of Food Processing Industries in the State.

EDUSAT for training of teachers

2115. DR. K. KASTURIRANGAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country's educational satellite, EDUSAT, is being used for the training of teachers concerned with our primary, secondary and higher secondary education;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the plans for expanding the teachers' training programme with EDUSAT in the next two years; and

(d) the details of States in the country which are not covered by this programme and the plans of Government to bring them also under this training programme in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. EDUSAT is being used by the institutions like Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT), etc., for training and orientation of teachers on the use of new text books developed by NCERT. IGNOU has informed of its plan to expand the coverage of EDUSAT facility for training of larger number of teachers.

(d) As per the information provided by ISRO, the 14 States/UTs namely Tamil Nadu, Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan, Lakshadeep, Sikkim, M.P., Kerala, Maharashtra, Orissa, U.P., Gujarat, Chandigarh, Meghalaya have signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), which is a pre-requisite for installation of equipments for utilizing the EDUSAT facility. The remaining States have been persuaded to sign the MoU.